Lay Summary Form and Guidelines for submission to the ECA Competition

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Patients and families are partners with their health care providers and researchers at Hamilton Health Sciences. Effective November 2022 Competition, a Patient Advisory for Research representative will serve as a member of the Early Career Award (ECA) Peer Review Committee and will take on the task of reviewing and evaluating the Lay Summary of all HPI Applications.

**REVIEW CRITERIA for EVALUATING LAY SUMMARY**

1. Readability for the public at a grade 8 level
2. Clearly ties to the Research Early Career Awards purpose and priorities
3. Advances the researcher’s career pathway and/or program of research
4. Proposed work advances and creates new knowledge that does or has the potential to inform patient care and/or builds on existing basic laboratory research work

**Complete the below five sections of this Lay Summary Template for your proposed ECA research project(s). In creating your content, ensure that:**

* the tone is appropriate for the public audience ( awareness of sensitivity)
* no acronyms are used
* simple terms are used – medical terminology is used sparingly and, if necessary, explained in “everyday” language
* is easy to understand – ideas flow together in a way that is easy to follow – using short and clear sentences

Name of ECA Applicant:

ECA Project Title or Program of Research:

1. **Impact – Advancing Investigators Career Pathway and Creating New Knowledge**

1a) Development of Research Talent

* How will this award advance the researcher’s career pathway and/or program of research?
* How will the ECA funding be leveraged moving forward?
* Does the proposed work advance/create new knowledge that has the potential to inform patient care?

1b) Creating New Knowledge that informs patient care and/or builds on existing basic laboratory work

* How will the results of this study inform new or better ways to help patients (at HHS and beyond)?
* How will the results of this study contribute to other research work already done?
* What will you do with the information that this research provides?
* How will this research contribute to future projects?
* Is this study multidisciplinary and collaborative (includes more than one department, program, or health care discipline and institution)?
* How does this research align and complement HHS health care priorities/goals?

1. ***Patients*** *– provides an excellent patient and family experience*
2. ***People*** *– engages, empowers and enables HHS staff to deliver our Mission*
3. ***Sustainability*** *– meets the health care needs of the communities we serve (now and in the future)*
4. ***Research, Innovation & Learning*** *– leads for the benefit of our community and the world*

* Does this work engage team members from diverse backgrounds and/or address health care disparities experienced by Indigenous and/or systematically underrepresented/underserviced communities?

1. **Brief Background**

What has been done to date and explain the reason why this research is needed (include patient population, demographics, prevalence, and incidence?)

1. **Rationale for the study**

Explain what needs to be known and why?

1. **Aim of the Study**

What is this study trying to demonstrate?

1. **Method and Feasibility**

* How will you do the research?
* Who or what will be studied?
* Over what time period?
* Where will it happen?
* How will you analyze the results?
* Sample size